

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4-17 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 2 and 4-11 have been amended, claims 12-17 have been added and claim 3 has been canceled. Claims 1 and 15 are independent. The specification has been amended. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Application Data Sheet

As the Examiner will note, an Application Data Sheet has been provided to correct the Title of the invention. It is requested that the Application Data Sheet be considered and that the Title be corrected.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Pang et al., USPN 6,578,188. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention is directed to a method for providing data-processing service. Independent claim 1 recites a combination of steps including "subjecting the primary data to data processing by using an application program provided in the server computer, said application program converting the primary data having a first form to secondary data having a second form different from the first form." Applicants respectfully submit that the

Pang et al. reference relied on by the Examiner fails to teach or suggest the presently claimed invention.

Referring to the Pang et al. reference, this reference discloses a simulation server that allows a mask image to be uploaded via the Internet from a client site. Referring to column 27, first paragraph of Pang et al., the simulation server “outputs results in the form of simulations, one-dimensional plots, or reports.” There is no indication in the Pang et al. reference that the data in the mask image file is converted into data having a different form as in the present invention. In Pang et al., the mask image file is merely used to run a simulation or to generate a one-dimensional plot or a report on the defects in the mask image file. In view of this, Pang et al. fails to disclose converting primary data to secondary data, wherein the primary data has a first form and the secondary data has a second form different from the first form. Accordingly, the Pang et al. reference fails to anticipate independent claim 1 of the present invention.

With regard to dependent claims 2 and 4-11, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are allowable due to their dependence upon independent claim 1, as well as due to the additional recitations in these claims.

For example, dependent claim 2 recites “wherein the server computer stores the secondary data in a state that enables the secondary data to be downloaded to the client computer.” The Examiner refers to column 27, lines 4-7 of Pang et al. in order to disclose this aspect of the present invention; however, this portion of Pang et al. merely indicates that information from the database 2207 is transferred to an application 2208. This makes

it possible for the client to perform operations on the mask image; however, there is no indication that it is possible to download the mask image to the client computer as recited in dependent claim 2 of the present invention. In addition, there is certainly no disclosure in Pang et al. of downloading "secondary data," which has been converted from primary data into a different form as recited in dependent claim 2.

In addition, dependent claim 7 recites "wherein the secondary data are three-dimensional CAD data for mold design." The Examiner relies on column 1, lines 28-31 and column 29, lines 55-61 of Pang et al. in order to disclose this aspect of the present invention. However, these portions of Pang et al. only disclose that the mask image can be used to fabricate a circuit in a semiconductor substrate. The circuit of a semiconductor substrate would not be made in a mold, but would only be etched on a surface of the semiconductor substrate. In view of this, the Pang et al. reference also fails to disclose this aspect of the present invention.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 2 and 4-11 clearly define the present invention over the Pang et al. reference relied on by the Examiner. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 are respectfully requested.

Additional Claims

Additional claims 12-17 have been added for the Examiner's consideration. Applicants respectfully submit that additional claims 12-14 are allowable due to their

dependence upon allowable independent claim 1, as well as due to the additional recitations in these claims.

With regard to additional independent claim 15, this claim is directed to a method for providing data-processing service, wherein a combination of steps are recited including “converting the primary data to secondary data by using an application program provided in the server computer and downloading the secondary data from the server computer to the client computer.” In addition, independent claim 15 recites “wherein the primary data is compatible with a first software program and the secondary data is compatible with a second software program different from the first software program.” Since the Pang et al. reference fails to disclose converting primary data to secondary data and downloading the secondary data from the server computer to the client computer, Applicants submit that the Pang et al. reference fails to anticipate independent claim 15 of the present invention. In addition, the Pang et al. reference is silent with regard to the primary data being compatible with a first software program and the secondary data being compatible with a second software program different from the first software program. In view of this, the Pang et al. reference fails to anticipate independent claim 15 for this additional reason.

With regard to additional dependent claims 16 and 17, Applicants submit that these claims are allowable due to their dependence upon allowable independent claim 15, as well as due to the additional recitations in these claims.

Favorable consideration and allowance of additional claims 12-17 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Since the remaining references cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject the claims, but merely to show the state-of-the-art, no further comments are deemed necessary with respect thereto.

All the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed and/or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently pending rejections and that they be withdrawn.


It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

Applicants respectfully petition under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) and § 1.17 for a one-month extension of time in which to respond to the Examiner's Office Action. The Extension of Time Fee in the amount of **\$120.00** is attached hereto.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Paul C. Lewis, Registration No. 43,368 at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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